

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2145

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 2239

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT TO BRAZIL

REF: SECTO 04147

1. I TALKED AGAIN YESTERDAY TO ESCOVAR ON THIS SUBJECT, GAVE HIM A COPY OF THE SECRETARY'S EXCELLENT PRESENTATION IN SAN JOSE AND DREW HIS PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO THE PASSAGES YOU CITE. HE SAID HE WOULD PASS ALL THIS ALONG TO THE PRESIDENT THAT NIGHT.

2. THE FOREIGN MINISTER HIMSELF IN A TELEVISION INTERVIEW YESTERDAY SAID THAT "THE U.S. HAS RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BRAZIL AND EMPHASIZED IN ITS CASE THE SYSTEM OF CONSULTATION THAT ALREADY EXISTS IN THIS HEMISPHERE AS A RESULT OF THE OAS, THE RIO TREATY AND OTHER AGREEMENTS. HOWEVER,--CONSULTATION SHOULD ALWAYS BE CARRIED OUT IN A LATIN AMERICAN CONTEXT. WE WOULD NOT AGREE THAT ONLY BRAZIL SHOULD BE CONSULTED AND THE OTHER COUNTRIES IGNORED." (ESCOVAR ALSO PRAISED THE SECRETARY'S VISIT HERE AS "VERY POSITIVE," EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF WHAT THE SECRETARY HAD TO SAY ON SELA, AND STATED THAT THE GOV IS "NOT IN ACCORD WITH INTERVENTION BY ANY AMERICAN COUNTRY, WITHIN OR WITHOUT THE HEMISPHERE. THIS INCLUDES

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ANGOLA.")

3. LUIS ESTEBAN REY, THE COUNTRY'S PREMIER COLUMNIST AND CLOSELY LINKED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, THREW SOME COLD WATER ON THE COALS YESTERDAY BY RECALLING THE VARIOUS ISSUES ON WHICH BRAZILIAN FOREIGN POLICY HAS DIVERGED FROM OURS RECENTLY (A "PRIVILEGED INTERLOCUTOR" BUT SCARCELY A "PRIVILEGED SATELLITE") AND BY STRESSING THE VERY REAL BILATERAL ECONOMIC PROBLEMS WITH WHICH THE NEW CONSULTATIVE ARRANGEMENTS WILL NECESSARILY HAVE TO BE PREOCCUPIED. THE LATTER IS A POINT I MADE TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER. AT ESCOVAR'S SUGGESTION WE ARE CIRCULATING COPIES OF THE SAN JOSE TOAST WITH ITS CLEAR PERSPECTIVE ON THE ENTIRE TRIP TO VARIOUS POLITICAL LEADERS.

4. BUT WE HAVE TROUBLE KEEPING UP WITH THE INVENTIVE MINDS OF THE MEDIA. TODAY'S EL UNIVERSAL CARRIES AN AP ITEM DATED WASHINGTON (NO BY-LINE) REPORTING A WASHINGTON STAR COMMENT THAT THE AGREEMENT WITH BRAZIL "WILL MAKE HAVANA THINK ABOUT THE FORMATION OF A NORTH-SOUTH AXIS." THE AP PIECE GOES ON TO STATE THAT THE SECRETARY RECEIVED HIS "FRANKEST SUPPORT" FROM FACIO, WHO, IT WILL BE RECALLED, WAS "ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ARCHITECTS IN THE CREATION IN 1965 OF THE INTER-AMERICAN PEACE FORCE COMMANDED BY THE BRAZILIAN GENERAL HUGO PANASCO ALVIN AND SENT TO SANTO DOMINGO TO PERMIT THE LEGAL DEPARTURE OF A LANDING OF NORTH AMERICAN TROOPS WHICH ABORTED A REVOLT WASHINGTON PERCEIVED AS PRO-COMMUNIST." THAT ONE WILL BE HARD TO TOP.
SHLAUDEMANN

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